

REFERENCE TITLE: ballot storage; public inspection

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

SB 1506

Introduced by
Senator Martin

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-624, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 16-624, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-624. Disposition of official returns and ballots

5 A. Upon receipt of the packages and envelopes containing the returns
6 and the voted ballots, the officer in charge of elections shall ~~deposit~~
7 ~~DELIVER~~ the package or envelope containing the ballots ~~in the safe of the~~
~~county treasurer, who shall keep it unopened and unaltered for twenty four~~
~~months for elections for a federal office or for six months for all other~~
~~elections, at which time he shall destroy it without opening or examining~~
~~the contents~~ TO THE COUNTY TREASURER THIRTY DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE
12 ELECTION CANVASS SO THAT THE PUBLIC MAY INSPECT THE BALLOTS. THE SECRETARY
13 OF STATE SHALL INCLUDE IN THE INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL THAT IS
14 ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-452 REQUIREMENTS FOR SECURITY FOR BALLOTS
15 DURING INSPECTION BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. AFTER ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS,
16 THE BALLOTS SHALL BE KEPT BY THE COUNTY TREASURER FOR SAFEKEEPING FOR
17 TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS FOR ELECTIONS FOR A FEDERAL OFFICE.

18 B. Irregular ballots shall be preserved for six months after the
19 election and the packages containing them may be opened and the contents
20 examined only upon an order of court. At the expiration of such time, the
21 ballots may be disposed of in the discretion of the officer or board having
22 charge of them.

23 C. The officer in charge of elections shall produce the other packages
24 or envelopes before the board of supervisors when it is in session for the
25 purpose of canvassing the returns.

26 D. If a recount is ordered or a contest begun within six months, the
27 county treasurer may be ordered by the court to deliver to it the packages or
28 envelopes containing the ballots, and thereupon they shall be in the custody
29 and control of the court.